

REMARKS

According to 37 CFR §1.116(b), amendments canceling claims may be made after a final action. Further, amendments presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal may be entered. The amendments above are submitted to cancel claims 34 and 35, and to incorporate the limitations of claims 34 and 35 into claims 4 and 24, respectively. Since these amendments simplify the issues for appeal, entry of the amendments pursuant to 37 CFR §1.116(b) is respectfully requested.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 CFR §1.18, the commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the pendency of this application including fees due under 37 CFR §1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 CFR §1.136(a)(3).

If the Examiner has any further questions relating to this Amendment or to the application in general, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone so that allowance of the present application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,



Bonnie Weiss McLeod

Reg. No. 43,255

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Phone: (202) 739-3000
Facsimile: (202) 739-3001
Direct: (202) 739-6150

APPENDIX

The following amendments were submitted above:

IN THE CLAIMS:

4. (Twice Amended) A mammalian GDF-1 protein substantially free of proteins with which it is naturally non-covalently associated, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under conditions of 65°C and 1M sodium chloride to DNA having the nucleotide sequence as defined in Figure 2 or Figure 11A or 11B and remains bound when subjected to washing at 68°C and 0.3 M sodium chloride/ 30 mM sodium citrate (2X SSC).

24. (Twice Amended) A process for purification of GDF-1 protein comprising expressing GDF-1 protein in a mammalian cell line, said GDF-1 protein being secreted into the medium, and isolating said GDF-1 protein from said medium to obtain a product which is substantially free of protein with which it is non-covalently associated, wherein said protein is encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under conditions of 65°C and 1M sodium chloride to DNA having the nucleotide sequence as defined in Figure 2 or Figure 11A or 11B and remains bound when subjected to washing at 68°C and 0.3 M sodium chloride/ 30 mM sodium citrate (2X SSC).